



# NORTHAMPTON ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

## APPROVED MINUTES

AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Carolyn Misch, Chair - Patrick McCarthy, Co-Chair - Louis Hasbrouck for Jonathan Flagg - Richard Parasiliti - Rachel Maiore - Ben Weil - Angie Gregory - Eric Winkler

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### 4:00pm -

Carolyn Misch opened the meeting noting that the meeting was being recorded and started with an introduction of new member Eric Winkler.

- Eric - Gives an introduction of his time at ISO NE, and a past in the energy industry and working on CCAs. .
- Introductions from Commission.

### Public Comment Period -

- No comments

### Review / Approve minutes of July 11th. -

- Roll call approved

### Florence Field Array - Replacement Modem - Josh Singer (*Decision needed*) 10 min.

- See included documents for details
- Potentially \$7,500 per year
- Josh will look into 5G modem
- Output annually, production, funds
- Roll call to fund -
  - Unanimous

### Community Aggregation - Josh added for discussion

- Carolyn - Meeting scheduled for Friday to discuss and submit to DPU
- Angie - where can we review information around this topic?
- Carolyn - as part of the DPU application, each municipality needs to post the same info about the process and how each community member can get involved. There is a link on the city homepage with this information. Once the DPU reviews this we will hopefully have approval quickly, then we create an organization, and make decisions about the energy purchasing and buy in. All info accessible now from web pages.

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**Voting Members:** Carolyn Misch, Chair • Patrick McCarthy, Co-Chair • Marissa Elkins • Jonathan Flagg  
• Rachel Maiore • Richard Parasiliti • Tim Smith • Ben Weil • Angie Gregory  
• Eric Winkler  
**Staff advisor, non voting:** Josh Singer



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#### **Councilor Updates (NESC administrative) -**

- Rachel - stretch code has been introduced to council. Will be discussed this coming Monday Aug 14th. Will look at it and make a recommendation, and then to council meeting for a vote. Hopefully it will make its way through by early fall.

#### **Department head reports -**

- Pat - Nearly finished with insulation projects funded from Green Communities.
  - Forbes needs a new boiler, takes about 30 wks to get sections. Dealing with 3 different contractors and a mechanical engineer.
  - Recondition old boiler
  - Install new boiler
  - Install new, used boiler
  - There is only one zone on steam, childrens dept. Timing is bad as freezing temps are around the corner.
- Ben - two things to look into to possibly avoid fossil fuel boilers.
  - Air to air heat pump in the one section?
  - Make the argument that an investment in a gas fired boiler is a backup system
  - Potentially look into cascading condensing boilers, smaller, lower cost
  - Rental boilers? Trane,
- Carolyn -
  - We have engaged an engineer for a GSHP at the library and the hub. So it would be a shame to add a new system for a lot of money if we are going to be changing course.
- Ben - there is a potential to use a condensing cascaded boiler to supplement the GSHP system.
- Richard - Update on rain events
  - Received over 10 inches of water, over 115 ft in the Connecticut
  - It is very important that we do what we can to mitigate the stormwater runoff for the city

#### **Follow up about lighting ordinance -**

- Carolyn - meetings with folks from Flagstaff about their lighting.

#### **Ecological restoration at pine grove golf course -**

- Design for dam removal there, restoring stream flow, more filtration, flood storage, and restoration of natural corridors.

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**Next meeting scheduled for September 12th**

**Committee Adjourned at 5:02pm**

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